

INVESTIGATIONS BY CONGRESS AT A RECORD MARK

Session Starting in December to Have Largest Number of Inquiries.

MANY POINTS TOUCHED

Neglect of Domestic Affairs by Democrats Is Basis in Most Cases.

PUNISHMENT SEEMS RIPE

Administration Has Had Little Time for Anything but to Boom League of Nations.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
New York Herald Bureau,
Washington, D. C., Oct. 17.

The session of Congress that meets in December will be a record breaker for investigations unless all signs fail. Demands from members of both political parties for Congress inquiries into the activities or failures of the Wilson Administration have been growing steadily ever since adjournment last spring until the list reaches staggering proportions. It touches virtually every branch of the executive departments from the White House down through the departments presided over by members of the Cabinet. If all the requested investigations mature into actuality the House and Senate will have little time for anything else in the three months prior to the close of the present Administration. March 4 next, and pressure for investigations would force an extra session even if the newly elected President were not to ask for it on other grounds.

No less than fourteen formidable subjects of inquiry arose during the summer, most of them new. Others, of course, are developments growing out of former investigations, which will be continued after the Presidential campaign is over and the election decided, which party shall control the nation for the next four years.

List of Inquiries Demanded.

Here is a compilation of the various demands for investigations:

1. Representative Edmonds (Pa.), Republican member of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, has demanded impeachment of President Wilson for his refusal to abrogate certain treaties the recall of which was provided for in the Jones Shipping act. Such proceedings if entered into would require the taking of exhaustive testimony before the Judiciary Committee of the House and later the Senate would be turned into an impeachment court, with President Wilson on trial for alleged malfeasance of office.
2. Alleged outrages by United States marines in Haiti, under the jurisdiction of Josephus Daniels, Secretary of the Navy, covering a period of nearly five years of American occupation in Haiti, has brought from Senator Warren G. Harding, Republican nominee for the Presidency, a demand for a Congress investigation. The charges of these outrages are considered formidable in view of the fact that they were advanced by Major Gen. George Barnett, former Marine Corps commandant, in his report to Secretary Daniels. The latter has denied the accuracy of the accusations made by Gen. Barnett and also has suggested an investigation, which, however, he proposes to conduct within the Navy Department.
3. Senator Ellison D. Smith (South Carolina), Democrat, in fiery invective aimed at Secretary Houston of the Treasury Department and the Federal Reserve Board virtually has demanded a Congress investigation of the conduct of their offices because of the refusal of the Treasury to help finance the cotton crop in the era of low prices. The criticisms against Secretary Houston and the board have also been made by farmers' organizations throughout the country representing producers not only of cotton, but also of wheat, corn and most of the other staples on which prices have declined to such an extent as to bring the agricultural world face to face with financial ruin.
4. Alleged failure of the prohibition

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commissioner to enforce adequately the provisions of the Volstead prohibition law has subjected John F. Kramer, the commissioner, to a fire of criticism for months, pro-liquor advocates also accusing him of being too arbitrary in his methods. From both sides of the prohibition problem have come repeated demands for Congress inquiry and several members of Congress have promised to urge resolutions of investigation when Congress reconvenes.

5. Bitter criticisms have been made against the United States Shipping Board for alleged failure properly to administer the terms of the shipping law and the handling of about \$3,000,000 which Congress has appropriated for the rebuilding of an American merchant marine. Charges have been made that by dummy operations for ship repairs the Government in American yards for American operators and demands are to be made for investigation of this situation.

6. Sales of surplus army supplies from the office of the Quartermaster-General, which were in progress through the summer in many sections of the country, are alleged to have been a financial failure to the Government, resulting in losses of huge proportions. These losses include waste, both salt and canned; canned vegetables, automobiles, saddles, leather, branding irons and a vast list of other items. This has been the subject of investigation by the special committee on war expenditures, which now purposes to continue its inquiry into the work which the War Department did during the summer.

7. The Department of Justice has been the target for many weeks of various charges involving not only conduct of its prosecutions of coal profiteers but also its campaign against the high cost of living, which it is now reported is to close November 1 on the ground that living cost has come down and that it is out of money to continue its program. Republicans are asserting that this propaganda is being ended because election day is near and it no longer serves the purpose of aiding the Democratic party. Many demands for investigation of this situation have been made.

Sees Manipulation in Wheat.

8. Gov. Allen of Kansas has demanded an investigation of alleged manipulation of wheat prices in the Chicago market which President Wilson has promised to have inquired into. Before this inquiry is closed it is expected that it will be taken up by Congress.

9. Charges have been made by Representative Julius Kahn (Cal.), chairman of the House Committee on Military Affairs, that Newton D. Baker, Secretary of War, has ignored the plain provisions of the army reorganization act; that he has arranged for the General Staff to administer the purchase of supplies rather than to have this done by the Assistant Secretary of War, as the law provides. Mr. Kahn has prepared a resolution of investigation which he intends to put through if possible as soon as Congress meets.

10. The Senate subcommittee, headed by Senator Kenyon of Iowa, appointed to investigate campaign contributions and expenditures, has decided that its inquiry will be continued after the election is over. It is said that further testimony will be taken in Washington and probably in other cities throughout the country, depending on the nature of facts still to be disclosed.

11. During the summer the long standing feud between the Department of Labor and the Department of Justice over the deportation of undesirable aliens broke out afresh; also bitter charges have been made that aliens subject to deportation, including Ludwig C. A. K. Martens, so-called "Soviet Ambassador" to this country, have been permitted to remain here and carry on their Red propaganda instead of being sent back to Russia or other native lands. An investigation is bound to be resulted upon this question, which has long been the subject of inquiry by both the House and Senate.

12. Criticism of the Bureau of War

here of Congress in the face of Administration officials. Veracious conditions arising with reference to the nation's coal supply have been in the news headlines of the country from coast to coast for months with a backfire constantly heading toward the Administration in Washington.

Coupled with this has been a constant complaint about the shortage in cars to move the enormous crops of wheat and corn that are constantly piling up in the fields, grain bins, elevators and terminal grain markets of the country. And as a background for all this there has been a constant agitation of the transportation question and the controversy between the States and the Federal Government over the question of increased freight and passenger rates. The Interstate Commerce Commission, hampered in the transaction of its enormous volume of business by the delay of the President in appointing its full membership, as authorized by the Edith-Cummings railroad law, has been literally swamped with work that it has been humanly impossible for the members to dispose of.

Many of the foregoing subjects of promised investigation have been the product of the Presidential campaign, now in its bitter stage. Others have been born, not of political animosity, but of commercial, industrial and social confusion—the failure of the many agencies vital to the every day life of the nation to function normally.

Index to Political Situation.

Republican leaders believe that they are the index to the political situation; they believe these are purely domestic questions that have been allowed to degenerate and have been ignored by the Democratic Administration for the sake of its pursuit of what it chooses to believe is the one issue in the campaign—our foreign policy and America's entrance into the Wilson League of Nations.

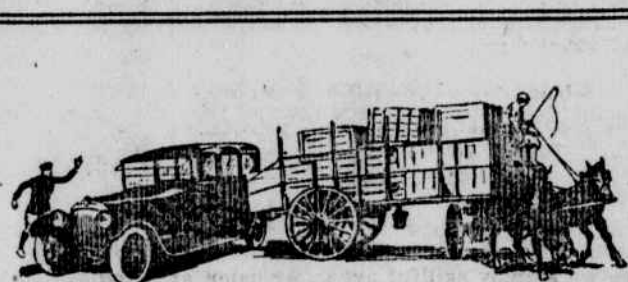
Furthermore, they believe the people are less alive to the arguments being advanced in the so-called "solemn referendum" on the league than they are to the every day problems of their every day life; that they will far more readily listen to policy speakers who will promise them relief from the burdens of taxation, reduce the high cost of living, lessen the trials growing out of defective transportation and in general promise a return to normal pre-war conditions than they will to those who paint an imaginary picture of the millennium which will be attained by membership in a League of Nations composed of this and the nations of Europe.

Democratic leaders recognize the difficulties under which their party is laboring, especially those Democratic Senators from the South who have just been attending a conference of cotton growers here, seeking aid from the Federal Government for boosting the price of cotton and getting financial assistance until those high prices come.

These very Democratic Senators who have been bounding the Treasury officials, accusing them of ignoring the common wishes of the common people themselves are for the ratification of the league. But they say that when their cotton farmers are unable to sell the products of their year's labor on their plantations at prices which will enable them to make any profits; when the farmers do not know where to turn to get money to pay the labor they employed to help them harvest their

Not All in Fourteen Points.

These "fourteen points" by no means exhaust the catalogue of storm signals displayed during the summer by many



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crops—in such conditions farmers will not listen to academic discussions of our foreign policy.

Opposition Is Summed Up.

The same story is told by both Republicans and Democrats in other parts of the country where corn and wheat, rather than cotton, are the factors in the case. In short, the situation resolves itself into this:

The fruits of persistent neglect of our domestic affairs on the part of the Administration now in power are ripening. At the time when those domestic affairs most needed attention the Administration was devoting itself to what even at best seemed a doubtful project, namely, the ratification of the covenant for the League of Nations as written by President Wilson.

Every indication now points toward punishment of the Administration by the public, not only for its neglect of domestic affairs but its refusal to have the question of the foreign policy disposed of in a way that the necessary two-thirds of the Senate would have accepted but for the President's rejection of the tender.

BATTLESHIP STARTS ON SHAKEDOWN TRIALS

Tennessee Will Work a Week Off Block Island.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
Newport, R. I., Oct. 18.—The battleship Tennessee, Capt. R. H. Leigh commanding, arrived here early this morning and was anchored in the ship channel between Rose Island and Jamestown. The day was spent in loading ordnance supplies from the torpedo station, and there was no shore liberty for her crew. The Tennessee left late in the afternoon for her shakedown trials off Block Island Sound, and she will be at Gardiners Bay, returning to Newport at the close of the week.

ILLINOIS WATERWAY BIDS ARE OPENED

Plan Is to Complete Canal in Three Years.

CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—Bids for the construction of the first lock on the Illinois deep waterway—the dream of more than a century—were opened here to-day. The lowest of five bids offered was \$1,372,115 by a Chicago firm.

The waterway will connect the Great Lakes with the Gulf of Mexico by way of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. The right of way has been obtained for the work now being contracted for.

The State's plan is to have the waterway ready within three years after the contract is awarded.

The locks on the waterways are to be 600 feet long and 110 feet wide. The minimum depth of the waterway will be eight feet.

CONFESED MURDER TO GET WARM CELL

James Firth Now Says He Didn't Kill Woman.

HARTFORD, Conn., Oct. 18.—James Firth, about 60 years old, apparently tired of the notoriety given him since "confessing" that he murdered a woman in Rockland, Me., denied this afternoon that he was a murderer. He told the police that he had never been in Maine and that he knew of the Brown murder because he had read about it in the Boston papers some time ago.

Asked why he "gave himself up" Firth replied that he "wanted a place for the winter and could not think of a better place to spend the chilly months than in a Hartford jail."



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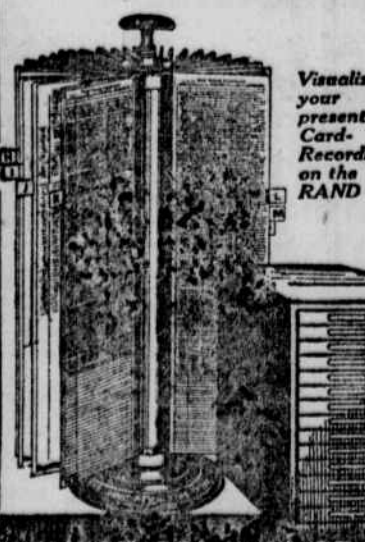
LOT No.	Material	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price	Material	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price	Material	Quantity	Unit Price	Total Price
1293	4 1/2	100	4 1/2	450	7 1/2	5.00	37.50	4 1/2	100	4 1/2	450	450
1356	4 1/2	200	4 1/2	900	7 1/2	5.00	37.50	4 1/2	100	4 1/2	450	450
1415	4 1/2	300	4 1/2	1350	7 1/2	5.00	37.50	4 1/2	100	4 1/2	450	450

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TODAY—when markets stand firm one hour and totter the next, when prices swing like a pendulum—it is more vital than ever that successful businesses know their production cost, not once a year but day by day.

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